



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

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July 24, 2000

The Honorable John M. McHugh  
Chairman  
House Subcommittee on Postal Service  
B-349C Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to express our strong support for the United States Postal Inspection Service and the important role it performs in assuring the security and integrity of our nation's mail system. I also want you to know of our deep concern and opposition to any realignment of the postal inspection function outside of the United States Postal Service.

For over two hundred years, Postal Inspectors, as federal officers of the United States Postal Service, have responsibly and effectively guarded the nation's mail against theft, fraud and other crimes. As the law enforcement arm of the Postal Service, the Postal Inspection Service has provided to postal customers the sanctity of the seal in transmitting correspondence, funds and securities through the mail and assuring postal employees a safe work environment. The Postal Inspection Service is universally recognized as a highly specialized, professional organization performing investigative and security functions essential to a stable and sound postal system.

It is most curious, therefore, that some parties would suggest – and that the Postal Subcommittee would even entertain – the notion that market competition and the placement of law enforcement responsibilities in the Postal Service engender conflict. This is hardly the case. Assurance of the security of the dispatches and goods carried by any worthy courier is a necessary cost of doing business. The Postal Service has always recognized this. That is why the Postal Service has dedicated resources – whose costs are duly recognized in all ratemaking cases -- to assure the security and integrity of the mail. The American people would expect no less. Furthermore, it is patently clear that the realignment of postal inspection responsibilities in any federal entity other than the Postal Service will create organizational and appropriated fund difficulties that are at odds with the financial stability and performance effectiveness of the Postal Service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Vincent Palladino', is written over a horizontal line.

Vincent Palladino  
National President

*Representing supervisors in the United States Postal Service*

